

Submitter: Emily Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1573

Syringe services are an evidence based practice to prevent the spread of infectious diseases like HIV and Hepatitis.

Losing this program will INCREASE the cost of caring for those who have injection related injuries and deaths associated with overdoses.

This policy would be hardest felt in rural communities. These areas may not have the populations to support a brick and mortar site but still deserve access to care.

Syringe Service programs improve the likelihood a patient will reach drug treatment systems.

As syringe service programs are often the only means people have to safely dispose of their syringes, cutting off these programs could lead to an increase in syringe litter rather than less of it.